

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 08411 181845Z

61

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 /077 W

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R 181235Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 445

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 8411

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR AO GH

SUB: PRESS RAISES SUPPORT FOR MPLA AND CONDEMNATION OF US

REF: ACCRA 8276

1. WHILE GOG HAS CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN ITS LINE ON ANGOLA ISSUE AND MFA OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AT POSTPONEMENT OF OAU MEETING, PRESS HERE HAS RAISED ITS LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR MPLA AND HEIGHTENED ITS CRITICISM OF AMERICAN ACTIVITIES.

2. LINE CURRENTLY BEING PUSHED BY BOTH GOVERNMENT OWNED DAILY GRAPHIC AND INDEPENDENT, LEFTIST PEOPLE'S EVENING NEWS IS THAT SOVIETS HAVE REASON TO ASSIST MPLA AS USSR HAS FOR YEARS AIDED INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE IN ANGOLA AGAINST PORTUGUESE. ON THE OTHER HAND, AMERICA, AND OTHER NATO COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS SOUTH AFRICA, ARE JOHNNY-COME-LATELIES, WHO SUPPORTED PORT-
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PAGE 02 ACCRA 08411 181845Z

UGUESE IN SUPPRESSION OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND WHO ARE NOW

JOINING FRAY IN HOPE OF EXERCISING QUOTE IMPERIALIST, NEO-COLONIAL UNQUOTE INFLUENCE AGAINST QUOTE PROGRESSIVE UNQUOTE FORCES OF MPLA. SECONDARY LINE IS THAT ONLY MPLA IS BROADLY BASED WITHIN ANGOLA AND THAT BOTH UNITA AND FNLA ARE TRIBAL MANIFESTATIONS AND THEREBY SYMBOLIC OF DIVIDED PAST AS WAS, IN OPINION OF PRESS, THE TSHOMBE MOVEMENT IN ZAIRE. EVENING NEWS SAID MOBUTU SHOULD KNOW BETTER. GRAPHIC EDITORIALS APPEARED DEC 17 AND 18, EVENING NEWS, DEC 16 AND 17, BOTH FRONT PAGED.

3. IN RELATED PRESS MATTER, GOVERNMENT -OWNED GHANAIAN TIMES PUBLISHED ARTICLE DEC 15 ENTITLED QUOTE US UNHOLY ALLIANCE UNDERMINING AFRICA UNQUOTE. FROM STYLE AND INTERNAL CITATIONS IT SEEMS CLEAR ARTICLE WAS NOT WRITTEN BY GHANAIAN AND IT HAS THE MARKS OF HAVING BEEN PRODUCED IN MOSCOW OR BERLIN. INTER ALIA ARTICLE ALLEGES US IS MAJOR WEAPONS SUPPLIER TO SOUTH AFRICA BUT DOES SO IN A MANNER BY WHICH FACTUALLY CORRECT INFORMATION IS SLANTED TO CREATE INCORRECT IMPRESSION ON READER.

4. EVENING NEWS NOTED IN DEC 17 EDITORIAL THAT IT HAD EARLIER WRITTEN ABOUT CIA ACTIVITIES AND THAT ITS SERIES THEN WAS SUBJECT OF PROTEST BY EMBASSY. (THIS IS CORRECT: SERIES APPEARED IN JULY AND WAS MENTIONED BY AMBASSADOR TO SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OTOO.) NOW PAPER STATES IT EXPECTS ANOTHER PROTEST FROM THE EMBASSY AND ADDS THAT IT WILL NOT BE STOPPED: QUOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO CONDEMN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WITHOUT FEAR. NO AMOUNT OF THREATS NOR OFFICIAL PROTESTS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL CAN DISSUADE US FROM DEFENDING IN OUR COLUMNS THE INTEREST AND INDEPENDENCE OF GHANA AND MOTHER AFRICA AS A WHOLE UNQUOTE. (COMMENT: EMBASSY DOES NOT REPEAT NOT INTEND TO PROTEST.) TO ADD TO ITS DEFENCE OF GHANA EDITORIAL GOES ON TO REHASH OLD CANARD ABOUT INVOLVEMENT OF AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS IN 1966 OVERTHROW OF NKRUMAH.

5. WE FIND NEW THRUST OF EDITORIALS INTERESTING IN THEIR JUSTIFICATION OF SOVIET INTERVENTION (ALTHOUGH CUBANS HAVE NOT YET BEEN MENTIONED) ON BASIS OF LONG ACTIVITY, COUPLED WITH REPEATING OF NEO-COLONIALIST STATEMENTS ABOUT US
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PAGE 03 ACCRA 08411 181845Z

AND, 9* :97 3, RACIALIST ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INTERVENTION, RECOGNITION, LIBERATION FRONTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ACCRA08411
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750440-1092
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751230/aaaaazqk.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ACCRA 8276
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS RAISES SUPPORT FOR MPLA AND CONDEMNATION OF US
TAGS: PFOR, AO, GH, UR, MPLA, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006